



Hon. Robert T. Matsui

Member of Congress

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Robert T. Matsui
Serving California's 5th District

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REPS. MATSUI & ENGLISH INTRODUCE BROADBAND BILL

WASHINGTON, DC—Today Congressman Robert T. Matsui (D-CA) joined Rep. Phil English (R-PA) to introduce the Broadband Internet Access Act of 2003 in the 108th Congress. The bill, which already has 56 co-sponsors, would create tax incentives for broadband providers to deploy current generation broadband technology to underserved and rural areas, and to promote the expansion of next generation broadband technology.

“The United States is a leader in innovative communications and Internet technology, and our infrastructure should be a testament to that fact,” said Rep. Matsui. “This legislation will expand the reach of cutting-edge technology, particularly in parts of America that are often left behind.”

The Broadband Internet Access Act would provide a 10% tax credit for current generation broadband deployments in rural and underserved areas. It would provide a 20% tax credit for next generation broadband deployments in those same areas and other residential areas. Any broadband provider would be eligible for the tax credit. Matsui and English introduced similar legislation last year that attracted 227 cosponsors in the House and 65 cosponsors in the Senate.

“At present, there are far too many Americans who are missing out on the information revolution because broadband access to the Internet remains unavailable,” continued Matsui. “By expanding state-of-the-art technology infrastructure, this legislation will stimulate the economy, create jobs for American workers, and benefit Americans for years to come.”

Reps. Matsui and English also plan to introduce a bill that employs business expensing as an alternate means to accomplish the same goal of expanded broadband deployment.

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